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DEC 22 2006

The Examiner rejected claims 1-11 and 16-23 in the Office Action. In an interview on November 27, 2006, which was conducted with the undersigned, the rejections and claimed subject matter were discussed with the Examiner. Applicants appreciate the Examiner's explanation and discussion of the rejections and cited references. Accordingly, in view of this consultation, Applicants have amended claims to incorporate the allowable subject matter and plan to pursue the other claimed subject matter in a continuation application.

To begin, Applicants thank the Examiner for the indications relating to claims 12-15. In the present response, Applicants have canceled claims 1-11 and 17-23 and amended claims 12, 13 and 14 to incorporate the recitations of claim 11 and place them in independent form. Also, Applicants have amended claim 16 to change its dependency to claim 14. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the pending claims 12-16.

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Conclusion

In view of the remarks and amendments set forth above, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the Examiner's rejections and allowance of claims 12-16. Applicants note that the current application has three independent claims and two dependent claims. As such, no additional fees are believed to be due at this time. However, if Applicant is incorrect in the calculation, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the appropriate fees to Deposit Account No. 05-1328.

Further, if the Examiner believes that a telephonic interview will help speed this application toward issuance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Dec 22, 2006
Date

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to Examiner Collins, Technology Center 3600, United States Patent and Trademark Office at (571) 273-8300 on December 22, 2006.

Margaret Gnewuch
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